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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/341,635	07/14/1999	RUI B. FERREIRA	DEXNON/087/P	5372

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JAMES E ALIX
ALIX YALE & RISTAS
750 MAIN STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06103

EXAMINER

TORRES VELAZQUEZ, NORCA LIZ

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1771

DATE MAILED: 01/24/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/341,635	FERREIRA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Norca L. Torres-Velazquez	1771

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Norca L. Torres-Velazquez. (3) James Piotrowski.
 (2) Elizabeth Cole. (4) Rui Ferreira.

Date of Interview: 23 January 2003.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
 c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.
 If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: Claims 5 and 16.

Identification of prior art discussed: HOLM (WO 96/12849).

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

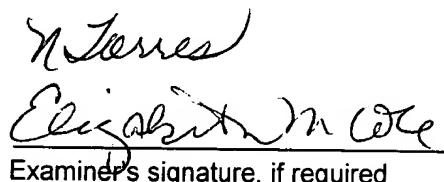
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview(if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


N. Torres
Elizabeth Cole

Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant explained the difference between the "unpulped long natural fiber bundles" of their invention and the elementary fibers of the HOLM reference. The seed hair fibers of the HOLM reference are present naturally in the form of elementary fibers while the "unpulped long natural fiber bundles" of the present invention are bundled together and held by several natural binding components such as lignin and hemicellulose. (As defined by Applicants on page 1, lines 13-15 of the specification. The Examiners suggested to include the limitation "... natural fiber bundles held together by natural binding components...", to claim 5 in order to overcome the prior art of record. The 112 rejection of claim 16 has been withdrawn since it depends on claim 11, which has been allowed already.